

News Release



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For immediate release:
Feb. 20, 2019

Essex Vicinage Celebrates Black History Month

The Essex Vicinage will hold its annual Black History Month program on Monday, Feb. 25 from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. in the 14th-floor conference room of the Leroy F. Smith Public Safety Building, 60 Nelson Place, Newark.

The theme for the event is “Black Migrations.”

Superior Court Judge Verna G. Leath and Melissa L. Cooper will serve as keynote speakers.

Judge Leath, a former state deputy attorney general and deputy public defender, was appointed to the bench on May 31, 2005 and received tenure in 2012. She is assigned to the criminal division.

Cooper specializes in African American cultural and intellectual history and the history of the African Diaspora. She received a Bachelor of Science degree from Temple University and her master’s degree and doctorate in history from Rutgers University.

The Newark Boys Chorus will perform the national anthem and other musical selections. There also will be a soloist guitar performance by the Newark School of the Arts.

This event is co-sponsored by the vicinage’s Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Advisory Committee and the Essex Vicinage Advisory Committee on Minority Concerns.

The program is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

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